

EXECUTIVE BOARD

EB22/Min/1 Rev.1  
22 August 1958

Twenty-second Session

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

MINUTES OF THE FIRST MEETING

Leamington Hotel, Minneapolis  
Monday, 16 June 1958, at 9 a.m.

CHAIRMAN: Sir John CHARLES

later: Dr P. E. MOORE

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First Meeting

Monday, 16 June 1958, at 9 a.m.

Present

Designating Country

Dr P. E. MOORE, <u>Chairman</u>	Canada
Dr C. DÍAZ-COLLER, <u>Vice-Chairman</u>	Mexico
Dr A. HABERNOLL, <u>Vice-Chairman</u>	Federal Republic of Germany
Dr M. SLIM, <u>Rapporteur</u>	Tunisia
Dr T. R. TEWARI, <u>Rapporteur</u>	India
Dr L. BERNARD (alternate to Dr E. J. Y. Aujaleu)	France
Professor G. A. CANAPERIA	Italy
Sir John CHARLES	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Dr A. DIBA (alternate to Dr A. H. Radji)	Iran
Dr A. R. HAKIMI	Afghanistan
Dr H. van Zile HYDE	United States of America
Dr LE VAN KHAI	Viet Nam
Dr A. J. METCALFE	Australia
Mr H. OLIVERO	Guatemala
Dr H. M. PENIDO	Brazil
Dr M. O. SHOIB	United Arab Republic
Dr J. N. TOGBA	Liberia
Professor V. M. ZHDANOV	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

Secretary: Dr M. G. CANDAU  
Director-General

18. GIFTS OF SMALLPOX VACCINES: Item 3 of the Supplementary Agenda  
(Resolution WHA11.54; Document EB22/24)

The CHAIRMAN read out document EB22/24.

Dr TOGBA expressed appreciation of the offers of smallpox vaccine made by the Governments of Cuba and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics for the planned world-wide smallpox eradication project. There arose the question of the distribution of the vaccine offered. Would the governments of the countries in which the vaccine was used be asked to bear the cost of distribution?

Professor ZHDANOV said he thought that the Soviet Union would bear the cost of distributing the vaccine it had offered to the countries to which WHO would recommend that it be sent.

The DIRECTOR-GENERAL said it was difficult for him to make recommendations regarding the distribution of the vaccine at the present time. He drew attention to the sentence in paragraph 4 of the document before the Board reading: "The Director-General proposes that the dried smallpox vaccine offered by the USSR and the smallpox vaccine offered by Cuba be available upon request for use in any part of the world where smallpox is endemic or any other place where there is a need for it." Those amounts would, he hoped, prove to be only a small part of the total amount which would be contributed for the programme. In themselves they were not sufficient for a really large campaign. The Eleventh World Health Assembly had requested him "to study and report to the Executive Board at its twenty-third session on the financial, administrative and technical implications of a programme having as its objective the eradication of smallpox", specifying a number of items which it wished the report to cover (resolution WHA11.54). The proposals in his report would be based on the best information available to him.

Dr TOGBA asked whether the statement just made by the Director-General implied that the Director-General considered that no government requiring smallpox vaccine

should apply for part of the vaccine offered by Cuba and the USSR until after the Board's twenty-third session.

The DIRECTOR-GENERAL said that it did not. It would, however, be wrong for him to make plans for the distribution of the vaccine before considering a large number of problems, including that of how much vaccine would actually be available for distribution to any one country. All the vaccine offered so far would scarcely be enough to cover a programme in, for instance, a single State of some largish countries.

Dr METCALFE, referring to paragraph 4 of the draft resolution in paragraph 6 of document EB22/24, asked the Director-General how he would "ensure that any vaccine accepted for the antismallpox programme was "up to standard".

Professor ZHDANOV said that a few days previously he had given instructions to provide the Director-General with data regarding the smallpox vaccine offered by the Soviet Union which would enable the Director-General to ascertain whether it was suitable for use in the planned campaign.

Dr BERNARD asked what was the purpose of paragraph 3 of the draft resolution before the meeting.

Mr SIEGEL, Assistant Director-General, Department of Administration and Finance, said that the purpose of that paragraph was to make it possible for assets in the special account to be carried over from one year to another. Such a provision was necessary because it was laid down in the Financial Regulations that "Appropriations shall remain available for twelve months . . . At the end of the twelve-month period . . . the then remaining balance of any appropriations retained will be surrendered" (Regulations 4.3 and 4.4). It had always been agreed that those

regulations should be made inoperative as far as special accounts like the one under discussion were concerned by making special provision therefor.

The DIRECTOR-GENERAL said that he and his staff always checked, as far as they were able, the properties of vaccines and other supplies (such as DDT) used for carrying out WHO programmes. They were in a position to obtain a large amount of information about the nature of those supplies and could call on a number of laboratories in different parts of the world to test vaccines. They would ascertain how any vaccines offered were prepared and make all the necessary checks they could.

Dr HYDE said that the words in paragraph 4 of the draft resolution, "is up to standard", were not sufficiently precise. He suggested the use of the words "shall satisfy international standards".

The DIRECTOR-GENERAL replied that there were no international standards for vaccines. It was hoped that the Expert Committee on Biological Standardization would establish such standards soon.

Dr HYDE suggested using the words "of acceptable quality".

Decision: The Board adopted the draft resolution in paragraph 6 of document EB22/24 with the words "of acceptable quality" substituted for the words "up to standard" in paragraph 4 (see resolution EB22.R12).



PROVISIONAL MINUTES OF THE FIRST MEETING

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Later: Dr P. E. MOORE

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Note: Corrections to these provisional minutes should reach the Chief, Official Records Section, World Health Organization, Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland, by 7 August 1958.



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First MeetingMonday, 16 June 1958, at 9 a.m.

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Dr M. SLIM, <u>Rapporteur</u>	Tunisia
Dr T. R. TEWARI, <u>Rapporteur</u>	India
Dr L. BERNARD, alternate to Dr E. A. Anjaleu	France
Professor G. A. CANAPERIA	Italy
Sir John CHARLES	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Dr A. DIBA, alternate to Dr A. H. Radji	Iran
Dr A. R. HAKIMI	Afghanistan
Dr H. van Zile HYDE	United States of America
Dr <del>LE VAN</del> KHAI	Viet Nam
Dr A. J. METCALFE	Australia
Mr H. OLIVERO	Guatemala
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Dr J. N. TOGBA	Liberia
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Secretary: Dr M. G. CANDAU  
Director-General

Representatives of the United Nations and Specialized Agencies

International Civil Aviation Organization

Mr R. J. MOULTON

Representatives of Intergovernmental and Non-governmental Organizations

International Fertility Association

Professor G. TESAURO

World Medical Association

Dr O. CAMPBELL

1. OPENING OF SESSION

The CHAIRMAN declared the twenty-second session of the Board open and called the attention of members to document EB22/23 on the use of the Russian language at the Executive Board. That document contained a draft resolution which he suggested the meeting adopt provisionally, in order to facilitate the participation of the Russian member of the Board. The subject would come up for discussion and formal approval at the appropriate time.

It was so agreed.

The CHAIRMAN then welcomed Dr Le van Khai, designated by Viet Nam; Mr Olivero, by Guatemala; Dr Penido, by Brazil; Dr Slim, by Tunisia; Professor Zhdanov, by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics who were new to the Board; Dr Bernard as alternate for Dr Aujaleu and Dr Diba for Dr Radji. Dr Shoib was also new to the Board although he had been designated by the United Aran Republic as early as April 1958. Dr Hakimi and Dr Tewari, designated by Afghanistan and India respectively, were replacing former members of the Board designated by their countries.

2. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN, VICE-CHAIRMAN AND RAPORTEURS (RULE 12 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE): Item 2 of the Provisional Agenda

The CHAIRMAN called for nominations.

Dr SHOIB proposed that Dr Moore be elected to the Chair.

Professor CANAPERIA seconded the motion, which was also supported by Dr DIBA.

There being no other proposals, the CHAIRMAN declared Dr Moore unanimously elected.

Dr Moore took the Chair.

Dr MOORE said that, following the example of his predecessor, he would reserve his thanks to the Board for its confidence until a later stage.

He called for nominations for the two vice-chairmen.

Professor CANAPERIA proposed Dr Habernoll, Dr BERNARD supporting the proposal.

Dr TOGBA proposed Dr Diaz-Coller.

In the absence of other proposals, the CHAIRMAN declared Dr Habernoll and Dr Diaz-Coller unanimously elected and invited them to take their seats as Vice-Chairmen.

He then called for nominations for the two rapporteurs, one of whom had to be English-speaking and the other French-speaking.

Dr BERNARD proposed Dr Slim as the French-speaking rapporteur, Dr SHOIB seconding the motion.

Dr HYDE proposed Dr Tewari as the English-speaking rapporteur; Professor CANAPERIA seconded the motion.

There being no other nominations, the CHAIRMAN declared Dr Slim and Dr Tewari unanimously elected and invited them to take their seats as rapporteurs.

Dr LE VAN KHAI congratulated the Chairman on his election and expressed his thanks to the outgoing officers of the Board.

As a new member, he wished to say how highly his Government esteemed the honour of being among those entitled to designate a member. He felt it a duty and an honour to co-operate, to the best of his ability, with other members of the Board in promoting the interests of the Organization.

3. HOURS OF WORK

On the proposal of Dr TCGBA, the Board agreed to work from 9 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and from 2 p.m. to 5.30 p.m., with intervals of fifteen minutes at approximately 10.30 a.m. and 3.30 p.m.

4. ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING ITEM 19 OF THE AGENDA

The CHAIRMAN announced that, in accordance with Rule 3 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board, the Government of New Zealand had designated a representative to be present during the discussion of the method of appointing regional directors (item 19 of the Provisional Agenda). For reasons of convenience, he suggested that the matter be discussed at the beginning of the second meeting.

It was so agreed.

5. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA: Item 1 of the Provisional Agenda

The CHAIRMAN explained that document EB22/1 had been revised in order to include document numbers.

The item on the amendment of Staff Rules had been deleted in the absence of any proposed amendments. The item on the report of the Study Group on Ataraxic and Hallucinogenic Drugs in Psychiatry (item 12.3 of the Provisional Agenda) should also be deleted, that document not being available for discussion. Questions arising from discussions in the Eleventh World Health Assembly had been listed, together with the use of the Russian language at the Executive Board, in a supplementary agenda (document EB22/22).

Decision: The agenda and supplementary agenda were approved.

6. MALARIA ERADICATION SPECIAL ACCOUNT: Item 17 of the Agenda (Resolutions EB21.R91, WHall.16, WHall.17, WHall.42; document EB22/21)

COMMITTEE ON MALARIA ERADICATION: REPLACEMENT OF MEMBERS WHOSE TERM OF OFFICE ON THE EXECUTIVE BOARD HAS EXPIRED: Item 5 of the Agenda (Handbook of Resolutions and Decisions, 4th ed., pp. 50-51; resolutions EB17.R60 and EB18.R3)

Mr SIEGEL, Assistant Director-General, Department of Administration and Finance, introduced the item with particular reference to the report by the Director-General on the Malaria Eradication Special Account (document EB22/21) and to the two draft resolutions proposed for the Board's consideration.

In regard to the Committee on Malaria Eradication, the Director-General felt that there was no need to continue that committee, in view of the Board's freedom to set up an ad hoc committee whenever the need arose.

Dr HYDE expressed his gratification at the information in section 2 of the document and at the continued growth of the Special Account. The donations from Cambodia, Haiti and Viet Nam revealed the great importance those countries attached to malaria eradication. He also welcomed the substantial contribution made by the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the malaria eradication programme and conveyed his particular thanks to Professor Zhdanov who had played a major part in procuring that donation. He hoped that those donations could be taken as an index of continued growth of the Special Account so that it would be able to meet the needs of the malaria eradication programme.

Dr RAE, alternate to Sir John Charles, shared the views of Dr Hyde. He, therefore, proposed the adoption of both the resolutions contained in document EB22/21.

Decision: Those draft resolutions were adopted without further comment.

There was no comment on the possibility of dispensing with the Committee on Malaria Eradication on the understanding that the Board could set up an ad hoc committee at any time. The Chairman therefore asked the Rapporteurs to prepare a draft resolution dissolving that Committee for consideration at a later stage.

7. ESTABLISHMENT OF CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE ON WHO/IAEA AGREEMENT: Item 2 of the Supplementary Agenda (Resolution WHAll.50)

The DIRECTOR-GENERAL said that, under the resolution on the peaceful uses of atomic energy (resolution WHAll.50), the Board was to establish a Committee to be available for consultation by the Director-General in his further negotiations with the designated representatives of the International Atomic Energy Agency in preparing a final draft agreement between IAEA and WHO. The Board should decide the exact size of that committee.

Dr HYDE said that experience in negotiations with the United Nations and specialized agencies had shown the value of having a small group to give the Director-General the backing of the Board at certain points in the negotiations. He therefore suggested that the proposed committee's functions be similar, and that it have not more than three members and two alternates for the performance of the functions he had mentioned.

Dr RAE, alternate to Sir John Charles, seconded the motion.

Dr BERNARD said that it was perhaps too early to see exactly what functions the committee could perform and on what questions the Director-General would wish to consult it. As the size of the committee depended upon its functions, he would appreciate some further information on what the Director-General expected of the committee.



Dr HYDE explained that, in making his proposal, he had had in mind a small committee which would make the Board's authority available to the Director-General if he needed that express authority to obtain his objectives in his negotiations with the International Atomic Energy Agency. In his opinion, the committee would represent the Board rather than work out solutions to particular problems.

Professor ZHDANOV supported the motion. The committee's size could be increased at a later date, if the need became apparent.

The DIRECTOR-GENERAL hoped that the existence of a small committee would make it possible to expedite negotiations with IAEA, in accordance with paragraph 2 of the Health Assembly's resolution. He outlined the situation as from January 1957, and said that it was hoped shortly to reach a better understanding of the type of agreement to be concluded with IAEA. The United Nations Administrative Committee on Co-ordination would also be considering the problem of co-operation with IAEA, which was common to many organizations. When a draft agreement was ready, he would send it to members of the consultative committee of the Board for their advice; he would call a meeting of that committee, if that were required, although he felt at the present rate of progress such a meeting would not be necessary before January 1959.

Dr TOGBA suggested in the light of the Director-General's remarks that the Board postpone the establishment of the committee until its twenty-third session.

The DIRECTOR-GENERAL said that such a postponement might possibly retard negotiations with IAEA, if he needed the Board's opinion on any matter between the twenty-second and twenty-third sessions. As regards the size of the committee, he wondered whether three members would provide the type of representation which the Board required. He had had in mind a committee of five members.

Dr HYDE suggested that, if the Director-General wished to have the Board's views, he should communicate with each member. The committee could then synthesize and put forward the views of all members. Such a procedure would be preferable to consulting the members of the committee only.

Professor CANAPERIA, referring to the size of the committee, supported the Director-General's suggestion.

Dr TOGBA said that, in the light of what the Director-General had said, he would withdraw his earlier suggestion and agree to the establishment of a committee of five members.

In regard to methods of consultation, he agreed entirely with the procedure outlined by Dr Hyde.

Dr HYDE said that, subject to the agreement of Dr Rae and Professor Zhdanov, he would withdraw his motion for a committee of three.

Dr RAE and Professor ZHDANOV agreed and said they would favour a committee of five members.

The CHAIRMAN suggested that the Rapporteurs draw up a draft resolution, reflecting the Board's discussion, for adoption at a later stage.

It was so agreed.

8. REPORT ON APPOINTMENTS TO EXPERT ADVISORY PANELS AND COMMITTEES:  
Item 10 of the Agenda (Basic Documents, 8th ed. p. 88; Document EB22/16)

In the absence of any comments, the CHAIRMAN put the following draft resolution to the meeting:

The Executive Board

NOTES the report of the Director-General on appointments to expert advisory panels and committees.

Decision: The resolution was unanimously adopted.

9. APPOINTMENT OF THE GENERAL CHAIRMAN FOR THE TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS TO BE HELD AT THE TWELFTH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY: Item 13 of the Agenda (Resolution WHA10.33, paragraph (6))

The DIRECTOR-GENERAL reminded the Board that, in accordance with paragraph (6) of resolution WHA10.33, the Executive Board at its meeting immediately after the World Health Assembly had to appoint a General Chairman for the Technical Discussions at the following Health Assembly, that the General Chairman should be nominated by the President of the Health Assembly which had just ended. Dr Leroy E. Burney, President of the Eleventh World Health Assembly, had recently written to Chairman of the Board nominating Sir Arcot Mudaliar for that position. The subject of those discussions would be "The health education of the public".

Dr METCALFE said that, if Sir Arcot was willing to accept, he would support the suggestion.

Dr TOGBA also supported the nomination.

The CHAIRMAN put the following draft resolution to the meeting:

The Executive Board,

Having considered the communication from the President of the Eleventh World Health Assembly nominating Dr A. Lakshmanswami Mudaliar of India as General Chairman of the Technical Discussions at the Twelfth World Health Assembly; and

In accordance with resolution WHA10.33, paragraph (6),

1. APPROVES this nomination; and
2. REQUESTS the Director-General to invite Dr Mudaliar to accept this appointment.

Decision: The resolution was unanimously adopted.

10. SELECTION OF THE SUBJECT FOR THE TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS TO BE HELD AT THE THIRTEENTH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY: Item 14 of the Agenda (Resolution WHA10.33, paragraph (3); Document EB22/15)

The DIRECTOR-GENERAL, introducing the item, said that in accordance with resolution WHA10.33 the subject for technical discussions had to be determined two years in advance and that the appropriate documentation must be prepared by the Secretariat and distributed to Members about a year in advance, to allow for discussions at the national level.

Three subjects were put forward for the Board's consideration in paragraph 3 of the working document.

Professor CANAPERIA suggested that the subject for 1960 be the third proposed - "Mental health problems in public health planning" - in view of the fact that the World Federation for Mental Health was dedicating that year to a special study of mental health problems.

Dr RAE, alternate to Sir John Charles, pointed out that environmental sanitation in rural areas had already been dealt with in the technical discussions at the Seventh and Eighth World Health Assemblies. As "Mental health programmes in public health planning" was a broader subject than "The role of vaccination in communicable disease control", he agreed with Professor Canaperia that the former should be selected.

Dr TOGBA said that, in the light of the recommendation of the Eleventh World Health Assembly on the eradication of smallpox (resolution WHA11.54) he favoured the selection of "The role of vaccination in communicable-disease control"; by 1960 it should be possible to make some assessment of results of an eradication campaign.

Dr BERNARD pointed out that the Health Assembly would be able to carry out that review in its normal meetings. Technical discussions were for the study of broad problems on which a certain amount of knowledge was already available. The requirements were that WHO should have had some experience with dealing with them; the experts should already have given their opinion; and Member States should have had some experience at the practical level. Only subjects which would fill those requirements were suitable for discussion among so many participants, if rapid and constructive results were to be achieved.

In his opinion, "The role of vaccination in communicable-disease control" involved so many different biological and immunological problems that it could not be discussed usefully in so large a gathering. He therefore favoured the selection of "Mental health programmes in public health planning". This fulfilled all the requirements to which he had referred, and would give rise to much useful discussion.

Professor ZHDANOV agreed with Dr Rae in regard to "Environmental sanitation in rural areas".

Referring to "The role of vaccination in communicable-disease control", he thought that, if that subject were selected, discussions should not be restricted to smallpox vaccination, in view of the large number of vaccines now in current use.

"Mental health programmes in public health planning" was also a very topical subject and a very important problem of the future.

He found it impossible to choose between the two and would associate himself with the majority view.

Dr TOGBA fully agreed with Professor Zhdanov that the subject should not be restricted to smallpox. He had only intended to direct the Board's attention to resolution WHA11.54 on the eradication of smallpox and point out the relationship between the two subjects.

In view of the fact that "The role of vaccination in communicable disease control" was of wider interest than "Health problems in public health planning", he urged the Board to approve the former. If, however, it selected mental health, he would ask for "The role of vaccination" to be reserved for technical discussions at the Fourteenth World Health Assembly.

Dr METCALFE said that as most of the regions were still faced with much work on communicable diseases, mental health had to take a low priority in many parts of the world. Technical discussions on methods of controlling communicable diseases were likely to prove more beneficial to a larger number of persons attending them than a subject like mental health.

He therefore supported Dr Togba in urging the Board to select the first subject, possibly amended to "Control of communicable diseases" to make it broader in scope.

Professor ZHDANOV shared views of Dr Togba and Dr Metcalfe.

Dr SHOIB agreed with Dr Metcalfe but felt that the proposed amendment made the subject too broad and controversial. He therefore suggested "The Role of immunization in the control of communicable diseases".

Dr METCALFE approved that amendment.

Dr BERNARD said that it was less important to select a subject of interest than to select one which was suitable for the procedure adopted at the technical discussions. In view of the conditions to which he had already referred, he **was still** of the opinion that mental health was a better subject than "The role of immunization in the control of communicable diseases".

He further pointed out that the World Federation for Mental Health, which was dedicating 1960 to a special effort in mental health work, was in official relationship with WHO and that it would be beneficial to that relationship if WHO could co-operate by having its technical discussions on an allied subject. The Board could reconsider the matter of communicable-disease control for the technical discussions at the Fourteenth World Health Assembly.

Dr LE VAN KHAI recalled that the subject of mental health had been submitted at the Tenth World Health Assembly only. He therefore shared Dr Togba's view that communicable-disease control should come first, and mental health be reserved for the Fourteenth World Health Assembly.

Dr HYDE agreed with Dr Bernard that the procedure of the technical discussions required an extremely broad subject if the discussions were to achieve rapid and constructive results and provide an impetus lasting many years. From that point of view, the technical discussions on nursing at the Ninth World Health Assembly had been among the most successful.

He also recalled that the subject had to be suitable for two years' advanced study at national level. Experts did not need two years to prepare for discussions on the technical aspects of their subject; and the details on the respective communicable diseases were adequately dealt with in the Committee on Programme and Budget of the Health Assembly.

In regard to environmental sanitation, he agreed that there was no urgency, but at the same time he hoped that the subject of environmental sanitation as a whole, including air and water pollution, would be selected for discussion at some future Health Assembly.

For those reasons, he strongly urged the Board to select "Mental health programmes in public health planning".

Dr TOGBA appreciated Dr Hyde's arguments and agreed, in particular, with his remarks on the technical discussions on nursing.

In recommending communicable-disease control as a subject for the technical discussions, he had not intended to infer that those discussions should intentionally or unintentionally take the form of lectures by experts. He had assumed that each participant would inform the others of how he set about immunizing the population for which he was responsible against the major communicable diseases, from the purely public health point of view.

The meeting adjourned at 10.45 a.m. and resumed at 11 a.m.

The CHAIRMAN suggested that the Board vote on the two subjects which had been strongly advocated; and that before doing so it agree to recommend that the subject which was not chosen be considered as a possible subject for the technical discussions at one of the Assemblies following close upon the Thirteenth World Health Assembly.



Dr TOGBA supported that suggestion.

Dr BERNARD said that if in 1959 the World Federation for Mental Health was going to do work which would be of great interest to persons attending the Thirteenth World Health Assembly, that was a good reason why "Mental health programmes in public health planning" should be chosen as the subject for the technical discussions at that Assembly.

Decision: By 11 votes to 6, the Board rejected the recommendation that the subject of the technical discussions at the Thirteenth World Health Assembly should be "Mental health programmes in public health planning", and opted for the recommendation that the subject of those discussions should be "The role of immunization in communicable-disease control".

The CHAIRMAN suggested the adoption of the following draft resolution:

The Executive Board

Having considered the report of the Director-General on the question of technical discussions at the Thirteenth World Health Assembly; and

Taking into account resolution WHA10.33 para. (3), of the Tenth World Health Assembly on technical discussions at future world health assemblies,

1. DECIDES that the subject to be discussed during the Thirteenth World Health Assembly shall be "The role of immunization in communicable-disease control"; and
2. RECOMMENDS that when the subject to be selected for the Fourteenth World Health Assembly is considered by the Board, preference be given to "Mental health programmes in public health planning".

Decision: The draft resolution was adopted.

Dr TOGBA said that emphasis should be placed on the need for general discussion of the subject chosen for the technical discussions at the Thirteenth World Health Assembly rather than for a series of statements by individual experts on different aspects of the subject.

11. DATE AND PLACE OF THE TWELFTH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY: Item 15 of the Agenda (Resolution WHA11.15)

The CHAIRMAN, recalling that the Eleventh World Health Assembly had agreed that the Twelfth World Health Assembly should be held in Switzerland (resolution WHA11.15), said that Geneva was the obvious meeting place, and suggested either 5 May or 12 May 1959 as the opening date.

Dr TOGBA said that in his opinion 12 May 1959 was the most suitable date for the opening of the Twelfth World Health Assembly.

The CHAIRMAN suggested the following draft resolution:

The Executive Board,

Having noted resolution WHA11.15 on the place of the Twelfth World Health Assembly; and

Considering the provisions of Articles 14 and 15 of the Constitution,

DECIDES

(1) that the Twelfth World Health Assembly shall be held in the Palais des Nations, Geneva; and

(2) that, subject to consultation with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, this Assembly shall start on Tuesday, 12 May 1959.

Decision: The draft resolution was adopted.

12. DATE AND PLACE OF THE TWENTY-THIRD SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD:  
Item 16 of the Agenda.

Dr TOGBA thought that the twenty-third session of the Executive Board should not begin before the third week of January 1959. It would be necessary, he assumed, for the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance to meet for some days before the Board session began since at the January 1958 session of the Board, several members of the Standing Committee had not arrived at WHO headquarters until several days after the date set for the first meeting of the Standing Committee (6 January) because it was too soon after the New Year, he would suggest that Tuesday, 13 January, be chosen as the date for the first meeting of the Standing Committee in 1959; and that Tuesday, 20 January, be chosen as the opening date of the twenty-third session of the Board.

Since the climate of Geneva in January was very unpleasant for the inhabitants of countries with warm climates, he would suggest that the Board start holding its January sessions at the sites of the regional offices in turn; at most of those Offices it was warm in January.

Dr RAE, alternate to Sir John Charles, thought that the twenty-third session of the Board should be held at WHO headquarters. If the session were held away from headquarters, the Board would not enjoy the same efficient service as it was always given at headquarters and the cost of transporting staff members and documents from headquarters to the place where the session was held would be very great.

Decision: It was agreed that the twenty-third session of the Board should begin on 20 January 1959.

The CHAIRMAN asked whether the Director-General had any objection to 13 January being set as the date for the first meeting of the Standing Committee.

The DIRECTOR-GENERAL said the question was a difficult one to answer. In January 1958 the Standing Committee had completed the business that it was required to do before the beginning of the Board's session in much less than one week. He welcomed the suggestion that the Standing Committee should not meet in the second week of January, since it was desirable that all the members of the Standing Committee should be present at its first meeting, and also because he and his staff would like to have more time in which to prepare the documentation for the Standing Committee and the Board.

The CHAIRMAN suggested the following draft resolution:

The Executive Board

1. DECIDES to hold its twenty-third session in the Palais des Nations, Geneva, commencing on Tuesday, 20 January 1959; and further
2. DECIDES that its Standing Committee on Administration and Finance shall meet in the same place, commencing on Tuesday, 13 January 1959.

Decision: The draft resolution was adopted.

13. ORGANIZATIONAL STUDY: Item 18 of the Agenda (Resolutions WHA9.30, WHA10.35, EB19.R59 and EB21.R16; Document EB22/18)

The CHAIRMAN, recalling that it had been decided at the Tenth World Health Assembly that the study on regionalization requested by the Ninth World Health Assembly (resolution WHA9.30) be deferred until the whole matter could be reconsidered by the Executive Board after the Eleventh World Health Assembly in the light of the report to be prepared for the tenth anniversary celebration (resolution WHA10.35), invited the Board to discuss first the question of whether the subject of regionalization required further study at the present time.

Dr HYDE suggested that the Board should agree not to proceed further with the study.

Professor CANAPERIA said that the subject had been studied by the Board several years previously, and that there was much information on it in the volume, The First Ten Years of the World Health Organization. In the circumstances he thought that it would be unwise to study it further, since he greatly doubted whether much progress could be made at the present time.

The DIRECTOR-GENERAL recalled that the decision taken at the Tenth World Health Assembly, to which the Chairman had referred, had been recommended by the Board at its nineteenth session (resolution EB19.R59). It was for the Board to decide whether the study on regionalization should be continued in the present circumstances. At the Health Assembly which had just come to an end, it had been agreed that "a further study on the WHO publications programme shall be taken as the next subject for organizational study after the Board has disposed of the study on regionalization" (resolution WHA11.54). So if the Board decided not to proceed with the study on regionalization at its next session, it would be under an obligation to make an organizational study of the WHO publications programme at that session.

Dr HYDE suggested that the Board pass a resolution stating that, on the basis of the information before it on regionalization, it had come to the conclusion that there was no need to study that subject further at the present time: the Organization's regional machinery was working effectively and there were no aspects of the subject requiring special consideration.

Dr TOGBA supported that suggestion.

Decision: It was agreed that the Rapporteur should draft a resolution along those lines.

The DIRECTOR-GENERAL said that he would welcome guidance regarding the kind of documentation the Board would like to have for the study of WHO's publications programme. He would submit for consideration at the next meeting a rough plan on the basis of which the Board might discuss the matter.

14. ACCOMMODATION FOR THE SOUTH-EAST ASIA REGIONAL OFFICE: Item 20 of the Agenda (Resolution EB21.R55; Document EB22/20)

The CHAIRMAN invited comments on the report by the Director-General (document EB22/20), drawing attention in particular to the passage in paragraph 1 reading:

"Since 1949, the accommodation in Patiala House has become inadequate to the needs of the Regional Office, and the Director-General is continuing negotiations for the purpose of obtaining permanent suitable accommodation." The Executive Board at its nineteenth session requested the Director-General "to pursue his negotiations with the Government of India with a view to the provision of adequate permanent accommodation".

and also to the passage in paragraph 6 reading:

Although the Government of India has now indicated its willingness to provide suitable permanent accommodation for the South-East Asia Regional Office, the land to be used for the building has not yet been officially allotted, nor have plans been developed for the approval of WHO. It is clear that unless the pace of developments can be accelerated, another two years will elapse before the new building can be ready for occupancy. In view of the serious space problem which has existed for the past two or three years in the South-East Asia Regional Office, the Director-General considers that alleviation of the situation is urgent, and that all necessary action to provide an adequate modern, air-conditioned building should be taken as soon as possible.

Mr SIEGEL, Assistant Director-General, Department of Administration and Finance, said that the Director-General's report contained an up-to-date account of developments in the matter. At the Eleventh World Health Assembly, during the discussion on the new building for the Western Pacific Regional Office, it had been pointed out that there had been a delay in providing suitable accommodation for the South-East Asia Regional Office, and a member of the Indian delegation had made the statement of which there was a summary in paragraph 5 of the document before the Board. The matter had been under discussion for a long time; vigorous action should be taken as soon and as quickly as possible. He thought that it would be possible to make considerable progress on the basis of the statement by the Indian delegate to which he had just referred, and he hoped that at the next session of the Board it would be possible to report that such progress had in fact been made.

Decision: The Board adopted the draft resolution in paragraph 7 of the Director-General's report (document EB22/20).

15. REPORT ON ALLOTMENTS ISSUED AS AT 31 MAY 1958: Item 21 of the Agenda (Document EB22/17)

The CHAIRMAN invited comments on the report by the Director-General (document EB22/17), which he described as a very comprehensive document.

Professor CANAPERIA asked (1) what exactly was covered by the entry "Other travel and transportation \$ 41 000" on page 3 of Annex I of the document (under Operating Programme, Central Technical Services); (2) what was the difference between the items "Exchange of scientific workers" and "Exchange of research workers" on the page 5 of that Annex (under grants and contractual technical.

services), and (3) whether the total figure of \$ 2 631 695 for Annex II included all the amounts allotted for the programme financed by means of the Malaria Eradication Special Account for 1958, and if so, why the total amount shown for that programme in the budget estimates for 1958 (which he believed was approximately \$ 5 000 000) had not been allotted.

Dr METCALFE asked on what it was intended to spend the sum of \$ 7233 shown against the heading "Health education of the public: Cultural anthropology" on page 9 (Annex I).

Dr TOGBA asked what was covered by the entry "Medical stores management - \$ 7090" on that page under the heading of Burma.

Mr SIEGEL, Assistant Director-General, Department of Administration and Finance, said that the item "Other travel and transportation - \$ 41 000" represented the cost of recruitment, repatriation, and home-leave travel, which was shown separately from the cost of what was known as "Duty travel".

He could not immediately answer the other questions asked by Professor Canaperia and the questions asked by Dr Metcalfe and Dr Togba, but he would be glad to do so later.

The CHAIRMAN suggested that the Board agree to defer further discussion on the item.

It was so agreed.



16. TRANSFERS BETWEEN SECTIONS OF THE 1958 APPROPRIATION RESOLUTION;  
Item 22 of the Agenda (Document EB22/13)

The CHAIRMAN said that paragraph IV of the Appropriation Resolution for the financial year 1958 authorized the Director-General "with the prior concurrence of the Executive Board or any Committee to which it may delegate appropriate authority, to transfer credits between sections". In document EB22/13, the Director-General was requesting the Executive Board to approve the transfer of a total of \$ 99 050 from Appropriation Section 5 (Advisory Services) to Appropriation Sections 1, 2, 6 and 8 - \$ 15 500 to Appropriation Section 1 (World Health Assembly), \$ 7000 to Appropriation Section 2 (Executive Board and its committees), \$ 29 500 to Appropriation Section 6 (Regional Offices) and \$ 47 050 to Appropriation Section 8 (Administrative Services). He explained that details and the reasons for those transfers were set out in section 3 of document EB22/13.

Professor CANAPERIA asked for details of the intensified advertising campaign to accelerate the recruitment of personnel mentioned in the paragraph of section 3.4 concerned with increases in the cost of common services at Headquarters.

Dr BERNARD asked how the cost of the Joint Medical Service for the United Nations and specialized agencies in Geneva, also mentioned in that paragraph, was divided between the organizations which used that service.

Mr SIEGEL, Assistant Director-General, Department of Administration and Finance, said that the advertising campaign to accelerate the recruitment of personnel was responsible for only a very small part of the total amount which it was recommended should be transferred. The advertising in question consisted of advertisements of vacant positions in medical journals and similar publications.

The organizations which used the Joint Medical Service were the United Nations, WHO, ILO, IFU, and WMO. Each of those organizations paid a pro-rata contribution corresponding to its total number of staff members in Geneva.

Decision: The Board adopted the draft resolution in paragraph 4 of document EB22/13.

17. USE OF THE RUSSIAN LANGUAGE AT THE EXECUTIVE BOARD: Item 1 of the Supplementary Agenda (Document EB22/23)

The CHAIRMAN, recalling the decision taken immediately after the opening of the meeting to adopt the draft resolution in document EB22/23 provisionally pending a definite decision on it, invited comments on that document.

Dr METCALFE asked whether, if the draft resolution were adopted, there would be interpretation into Russian at meetings of the Board at which no Russian-speaking member was present.

Mr SIEGEL, Assistant Director-General, Department of Administration and Finance, said that the Director-General before every session of the Board would have to make provision for interpretation from and into Russian, but if no Russian-speaking member attended the session the Director-General would dispense with the services of those engaged to provide such interpretation at the earliest possible moment.

Decision: The draft resolution in document EB22/23 was adopted definitively.

18. GIFTS OF SMALLPOX VACCINES: Item 3 of the Supplementary Agenda (Resolution WHA11.54; Document EB22/24)

The CHAIRMAN read out document EB22/24.

Dr TOGBA expressed appreciation of the offers of smallpox vaccine made by the Governments of Cuba and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics for the planned world-wide smallpox eradication project. There arose the question of the distribution of the vaccine offered. Would the governments of the countries in which the vaccine was used be asked to bear the cost of distribution?

Professor ZHDANOV said he thought that the Soviet Union would bear the cost of distributing the vaccine it had offered to the countries to which WHO would recommend that it be sent.

The DIRECTOR-GENERAL said it was difficult for him to make recommendations regarding the distribution of the vaccine at the present time. He drew attention to the sentence in paragraph 4 of the document before the Board reading: "The Director-General proposes that the dried smallpox vaccine offered by the USSR and the smallpox vaccine offered by Cuba be available upon request for use in any part of the world where smallpox is endemic or any other place where there is a need for it." Those amounts would, he hoped, prove to be only a small part of the total amount which would be contributed for the programme. In themselves they were not sufficient for a really large campaign. The Eleventh World Health Assembly had requested him "to study and report to the Executive Board at its twenty-third session on the financial, administrative and technical implications of a programme having as its objective the eradication of smallpox", specifying a number of items which it wished the report to cover (resolution WHA11.54). The proposals in his report would be based on the best information available to him.

Dr TOGBA asked whether the statement just made by the Director-General implied that the Director-General considered that no government requiring smallpox vaccine

should apply for part of the vaccine offered by Cuba and the USSR until after the Board's twenty-third session.

The DIRECTOR-GENERAL said that it did not. It would, however, be wrong for him to make plans for the distribution of the vaccine before considering a large number of problems, including that of how much vaccine would actually be available for distribution to any one country. All the vaccine offered so far would scarcely be enough to cover a programme in, for instance, a single state of some largish countries.

Dr METCALFE, referring to paragraph 4 of the draft resolution in paragraph 6 of document EB22/24, asked the Director-General how he would "ensure that any vaccine accepted for the antismallpox programme" was "up to standard".

Professor ZHDANOV said that a few days previously he had given instructions to provide the Director-General with data regarding the smallpox vaccine offered by the Soviet Union which would enable the Director-General to ascertain whether it was suitable for use in the planned campaign.

Dr BERNARD asked what was the purpose of paragraph 3 of the draft resolution before the meeting.

Mr SIEGEL, Assistant Director-General, Department of Administration and Finance, said that the purpose of that paragraph was to make it possible for assets in the special account to be carried over from one year to another. Such a provision was necessary because it was laid down in the Financial Regulations that "appropriations shall remain available for twelve months . . . at the end of the twelve-month period . . . the then remaining balance of any appropriations retained will be surrendered" (Regulations 4.3 and 4.4). It had always been agreed that those

regulations should be made inoperative in so far as special accounts such as the one under discussion were concerned by making special provision therefor.

The DIRECTOR-GENERAL said that he and his staff always checked, in so far as they were able, the properties of vaccines and other supplies (such as DDT) used for carrying out WHO programmes. They were in a position to obtain a large amount of information about the nature of those supplies and could call on a number of laboratories in different parts of the world to test vaccines. They would ascertain how any vaccines offered were prepared and make all the necessary checks they could.

Dr HYDE said that the words in paragraph 4 of the draft resolution, "is up to standard", were not sufficiently precise. He suggested the use of the words "shall satisfy international standards".

The DIRECTOR-GENERAL replied that there were no international standards for vaccines. It was hoped that the Expert Committee on Biological Standardization would establish such standards soon.

Dr HYDE suggested using the words "of acceptable quality".

Decision: The Board adopted the draft resolution in paragraph 6 of document EB22/24 with the words "of acceptable quality" substituted for the words "up to standard" in paragraph 4.

19. POSSIBILITY OF ACTION BEING TAKEN UNDER THE AEGIS OF WHO FOR THE CONTROL OF THE 1949 GENEVA HUMANITARIAN CONVENTIONS: Item 4 of the Supplementary Agenda (Resolution WH11.31; Document EB22/25)

Decision: The draft resolution in document EB22/25 was adopted.

The meeting rose at 12.25 p.m.